

TAFT GAINS 26 VOTES

Week's Returns Show Secretary Winning Strength.

OHIO CONVENTION TO-MORROW

Action of Home State and Kansas Has Important Bearing on Coming Meetings—Question Now as to Support of President's Policies—Foraker's Strength in Chicago.

ALIGNMENT OF DELEGATES.

State	For.	Anti.	Un- known.
Alabama	4	0	0
Florida	8	0	0
Indiana	2	0	0
Kansas	2	0	0
Missouri	2	0	0
Michigan	2	0	0
Ohio	26	0	0
Oklahoma	2	0	0
Pennsylvania	2	0	0
Tennessee	4	0	0
Total	64	0	0

State Conventions This Week.
Ohio—At Columbus to-morrow.
Kansas—At Topeka, Wednesday.

William H. Taft made material gains last week in the contest for delegates to the Republican national convention. Since the publication February 24 of the table of delegates and their alignment, there have been twenty-eight additional delegates elected, of which twenty-six were instructed for Taft, and two, in the Sixth Ohio, for Foraker. The latter are contested by Taft delegates.

There are now 106 delegates elected, of which Mr. Taft has sixty-four without a contest, or considerably more than one-half.

It is now certain that the claims that Taft will have the solid vote of the States of Ohio and Kansas will be justified. It is not believed possible that the one district carried by Foraker in Ohio will stand out against the rest of the State, particularly as the State convention, to be held at Columbus to-morrow, will enthusiastically endorse Mr. Taft. In Missouri the districts supposed to be friendly to Speaker Cannon have declared for Mr. Taft, and the latter now has twenty-eight of the thirty-six votes of that State safely corralled.

Two important State conventions will be held—the first in Columbus, Ohio, to-morrow, and the second in Topeka, Kans., on Wednesday. They will both endorse Mr. Taft and instruct their delegates-at-large to vote for him.

Interest in Ohio.

The Ohio convention will be of special significance because of the platform to be adopted. The friends of Secretary Taft met here a few days ago and formulated the platform which was submitted to President Roosevelt and received his approval.

It will, in a way, be a forerunner of the Chicago platform, if the Taft people control that convention. It, of course, endorses in the highest terms the administration of President Roosevelt, and declares that administration so significant and conspicuous. It declares for the protective principle, but not for any particular schedules, holding that the latter are not sacred and immune from revision.

What will attract more attention than anything else will be the omission of any mention of the two Senators from Ohio. It will then declare in ringing terms for Mr. Taft for the Presidency and pledge Ohio's vote for him. The Taft way has apparently swept over Ohio, and the two Senators, who stood in its way, must take the consequences.

Has 24 of the 46 Now.

If Senator Foraker should persist in his plan to put up contesting delegations in all the districts, or in any number of them, it is not believed here that the national committee would consider them for a moment. Mr. Taft has already twenty-four of the forty-six delegates from the Buckeye State instructed for him.

The Kansas State convention is expected to follow the example of that of Missouri, held on Thursday last, and endorse Taft for the Presidency. Kansas has been entered by Mr. Taft ever since the latter entered the field. In addition to the Ohio and Kansas State conventions, there will be others held in the month of March that will indicate the sentiment of territory that has been somewhat in dispute, and in that respect will be more significant than any yet held.

Iowa will hold her convention on March 18. The Taft managers are claiming that State now, despite the efforts of the old friends of ex-Secretary of the Treasury Shaw to have it declare for the latter, or else send uncommitted delegates to Chicago. Should the State convention endorse Mr. Taft, the latter would be given a great boom, as the Dakotas and Minnesota would follow suit.

Nebraska Date March 11.

Nebraska will hold her convention on March 11, and if reports from there are reliable, she will declare for Taft. Louisiana, Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Rhode Island will have conventions in the same month. There has been some question as to cordials in Louisiana, and while the Taft people will doubtless control the regular convention, it is expected that a contesting delegation similar to that in Florida will be chosen by the nonofficials, and the national committee be compelled to choose between the delegations.

According to reports that come to members of the House and Senate from Iowa, Nebraska, and other Western States, the sentiment is not unanimously for Mr. Taft in that section.

It is assured that while Kansas will be for Taft on the first ballot, the strength will then go to Fairbanks, whose cause has been greatly strengthened as the result of the election of former Gov. Bradley, of Kentucky, to the United States Senate.

During the past week there have been expressions from newspapers and organizations of citizens that indicate that Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania, is growing in favor of west of the Mississippi. His speeches delivered in Kalamazoo, Mich., and Pittsburgh, particularly the latter, are being widely disseminated, and his position as to the relations of the government to railroads and as to the necessity for great waterway improvements is arousing much interest.

It cannot be said, however, that any practical results in the way of instructed delegates have been accomplished, but the Pennsylvania Senator, too, is being placed in an excellent position for second choice of many of the delegates from the West in case Mr. Taft should fail of the nomination.

Judge Killam Dies Suddenly.

Ottawa, Ont., March 1.—Judge Killam, chairman of the Dominion railway commission, and one of Canada's most widely known jurists, died suddenly at the Russell Hotel here, of pneumonia, after only a few days' illness. He was born in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, sixty years ago.

RISKS LIFE TO SAVE DOG.

Silk Worker Climbs Down Perpendicular CHC to Pond.

Paterson, N. J., March 1.—Robert Walker, a silk worker, living at Totowa, near this city, risked his life this afternoon to save the life of a bulldog that some one had thrown into the Passaic Falls basin last night.

Walker, who is about nineteen years old, descended the face of the perpendicular cliff on the west side of the falls basin and tied a rope around the dog, which had been marooned on an ice floe fifty feet off shore. It was impossible to launch a rowboat in the basin on account of the broken ice.

Walker is familiar with the falls basin and its surroundings, and when he volunteered to do what was considered an impossible feat—practically go down a surface seemingly as smooth as a plastered wall, and for a distance of eighty feet—friends tried to prevent him doing so, but he laughingly assured them he could do the trick.

About 100 persons saw the rescue. A small rope was tied around the dog, and it was brought safely to the surface. It had been a prisoner for about eighteen hours. Young Walker got back the way he went into the basin, and did not think he had done anything out of the ordinary.

MEXICO TO WELCOME

Acapulco Will Celebrate for American Flotilla.

MANY EXCURSIONS PLANNED

Larger Cities Organizing Parties to Visit Battle-ship Fleet at Magdalena Bay—Torpedo Boats at Callao Three Days Ahead of Time—Capital to Send Big Delegation.

Mexico City, March 1.—The tenders and smaller vessels of the American fleet of war ships will visit the port of Acapulco on their way to the bay of Magdalena.

The Mexican government will accord this portion of the fleet an official welcome at Acapulco, plans for which are now being arranged. A delegation of officials will go to Acapulco from this city, it is expected, to greet the visitors.

Acapulco has no railroad connection with the interior of Mexico.

Excursion parties are being organized in Guadalupe and all other large cities and towns of Western Mexico to visit the bay of Magdalena during the presence there of the American fleet. All available coast steamers have already been chartered by the prospective excursionists.

Three Days Ahead.

The torpedo-boat flotilla has arrived at Callao, Peru, according to a cablegram received yesterday at the Navy Department from Lieut. Commander Hurler, U. S. N.

The flotilla is three days ahead of its original schedule.

After a stay of about five days at Callao, the flotilla will proceed northward. It is due to reach Panama on March 16; Acapulco, Mexico, on March 23, and Magdalena Bay on April 6.

After several weeks of target practice, the flotilla will go to San Francisco to participate in the great naval review in San Francisco Bay.

DENIES DEBT OF A BILLION

Comptroller Metz Says New York City Owes Only \$704,000,000.

Declares It Is Not Fair to Make Taxpayers Bear Burden of Permanent Improvements.

New York, March 1.—Comptroller Metz has sent a letter to Assemblyman William M. Bennett, of this city, in response to some inquiries which the latter addressed to him about the city's debt limit and its ability to undertake certain improvements.

Assemblyman Bennett, who has suggested that a commission be appointed to investigate the condition of the city's finances, has claimed that the city's debt is \$1,000,000,000, but Mr. Metz says this is erroneous, because it includes \$145,000,000 of corporate stock, which is not in the debt form as yet, and also includes all of the \$138,000,000 of the funds for the Catskill aqueduct, which should not be charged against the debt limit.

The \$1,000,000,000, he says, is too much by over \$300,000,000.

In regard to a proposition made by Assemblyman Bennett, that the present situation, met by an increase in the tax rate, the comptroller asserted that it would not be fair to make the taxpayer of to-day bear the full burden of permanent improvement, although such a plan might be all right, so far as it applied to current expenses.

If the law is amended, as has been suggested, to prevent the use of corporate stock for anything but permanent improvements, the tax rate will have to be increased to meet the increased size of the budget, and this the comptroller favors. He has at all times, he asserts, been opposed to any other use of corporate stock.

The comptroller further says he sees no necessity for an investigation, and if the city is to keep on buying and building improvements, taxes must be increased or the city's debt must grow.

FINDS HUGHES SENTIMENT.

Chairman of Committee of Twenty-five Gets Gratifying Responses.

New York, March 1.—James S. Lehman, chairman of the Hughes committee of twenty-five of the Republican club, gave out a statement to-day covering the six weeks' work of that committee in this State and elsewhere in helping to further the governor's chances for the Republican nomination for President.

The committee, Mr. Lehman said, had sent out more than 18,000 communications, and had received most gratifying evidence from all parts on the candidacy of Gov. Hughes.

DOZEN HURT IN CAR CRASH.

New York, March 1.—Through a misunderstanding of signals, a Thirty-fourth street car crashed into a Third avenue car to-night, and a dozen passengers were injured. One man was so seriously hurt that he was taken to Bellevue Hospital unconscious, and four others were attended by the ambulance surgeon.

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GLAD SOUTH IS DRY

Booker T. Washington Calls Prohibition Blessing.

SECOND ONLY TO ABOLITION

Negro Teacher Talks to Huge Crowd at New Rochelle, N. Y.—Urges Colored Folk to Save Money and Not Buy Tawdry Jewelry—Salvation of Race Depends Upon Industry.

New Rochelle, N. Y., March 1.—Before the largest audience that ever assembled at the People's Forum, Booker T. Washington, at the New Rochelle Theater, this afternoon delivered an address on the race question, in which he expressed his gratification at the progress made by the temperance cause in the South, and declared that the abolition of the barroom was a blessing to the negro second only to the abolition of slavery.

Two-thirds of the mobs, lynchings, and burnings at the stake, he declared, were the result of bad whiskey getting into the stomachs of bad black men and bad white men.

He said: "The temperance movement which has swept the South has been a parallel in history. Now that I have lived to see the whiskey shops and open barrooms done away with, there is no telling what other reforms may take place anywhere. You little realize how much it means to the colored race. Without expenditure of money, a nighty revolution has been accomplished."

Kentucky Almost Dry.
To-day we find only thirteen counties in Kentucky where whiskey is sold under license; in Tennessee only four cities and two towns, and in the State of Florida only fourteen counties. They are almost extinct in North Carolina. After next Christmas every barroom in Mississippi and Alabama will close up. Already every barroom in Georgia has gone out of business, and for the first time in forty years the Atlanta Journal came out and said that not a single black man was in prison for drinking.

The colored race in this country is a nation within a nation. We have within the United States, according to the latest estimate, 10,000,000 negroes. This means a population twice as large as the whole of Canada or of Mexico, and is enough people to equal the population of five of the smaller countries of Europe. Of the entire negro population, 8,500,000 are in the South, and it is there in a large measure that the race question must be worked out.

Tuskegee Started in 1881.
The Tuskegee Institute was started in 1881 with only one building, a small wooden structure. It has since grown to a large institution with 1,500 students and 1,500 men and women. The institute owns 23,000 acres of land and seventy buildings, valued at \$900,000, but the institute and the buildings and the dollars in themselves will not solve the problem. They only constitute a preparation as used, not as ends, but as means. We must impress the negro race in the South through the graduates sent out. The greatest task that we have to perform is to dislodge the negro of the idea that labor is something to be given away.

The negroes of the South are an industrious class of people as a rule, but the trouble with them is that a great deal of the money which they earn gets away from them. They buy too much cheap jewelry—men of the kind that is worth only \$4 or \$5 as a trinket. I have seen a lot of them in the South where colored people have purchased goods for \$12 on the installment plan, when everything else in their house was not worth \$12.

Only One Fork in the House.
Not long since a man invited to take dinner with a family where they had only one fork in the house, and in the corner of the room was a 900-acre farm, which they were paying for on the installment plan. But you should judge a negro by the best he can produce, and not by the worst.

The negro started in Virginia forty years ago had not a dollar. They did not even own the clothes on their back. To-day in Virginia they own one hundredth of all property in that Commonwealth. Further south, in Georgia, where there is no such thing as the "color line," the negroes are doing well. The negro pays taxes on \$18,500,000 worth of the land. I would advise any negro friends to acquire their own property and homes, and not yield to the temptation of spending all their wages on Saturday night, and on Monday morning they have to start life over again.

HE CALLS TAX LEVY ILLEGAL.

New Rochelle Citizens Gets Temporary Injunction.

New Rochelle, March 1.—The financial difficulties which have beset the city of New Rochelle have been further complicated by the action of Michael J. Dougherty, a brother-in-law of ex-Mayor Dillon, of that city, who has applied to Supreme Court Justice Keogh for an order calling upon the mayor and the aldermen to show cause why the entire tax budget, amounting to \$745,000, shall not be set aside as illegal.

He also applies for an injunction to prevent the collection of taxes. Justice Keogh has granted a temporary injunction, which is returnable on next Saturday, when the arguments will be heard.

Mr. Dougherty, in his complaint, alleges that the tax levy is illegal and void because the mayor and aldermen unlawfully and illegally estimated the amount for the payment of salaries at the sum of \$90,000, which, he says, is far in excess of the amount necessary to pay the city officials. He further alleges that the mayor and aldermen illegally estimated the sum necessary to be paid for State and county taxes at \$35,000, instead of waiting for the exact amount to be certified to them by the board of supervisors, as provided in the city charter.

If the injunction is made permanent, it is believed that many of the city officials, policemen, and school-teachers, will be compelled to do without their money for another month, or possibly longer. Owing to the lack of funds, the school-teachers of the city, numbering more than 100, have not been paid since November.

The city also owes about \$300,000 in unpaid bills, which were handed over to it by the former administration, and deep interest is manifested in the outcome of the suit.

MANY MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Philadelphia Thinks Increase in Weddings Augurs Good Times.

Philadelphia, March 1.—If records of the local marriage license bureau can be accepted as an indication, no fear of a financial depression exists in this city. In fact, in the wake of the panic of last October, there were more marriage licenses issued last month than during any February in the history of the local bureau. During the past month 923 permits to wed were granted, as contrasted with 830 for the February of 1907.

Including the twenty-four issued Saturday on the special leap year day, the figures show an increase of sixty-eight over those of the same four weeks of the preceding year. Clerk Goebel is confident that a like increase will be maintained throughout the year, and that the figures at the end of 1908 will be record-breaking.

"If any financial depression has existed, it certainly has not shown its effect in this office," said he yesterday. "We have been busier so far this year than ever before, and it is hardly probable that young couples would care to marry in the face of prospective hard times."

THEY JUST LIKE PEANUTS.

Little Jersey Town Gets Away with Twenty Bushels.

Salem, N. J., March 1.—There must be some peanut eaters in Canton, this county, for J. B. Garrison, the local storekeeper, records the fact that he has sold since January 1 twenty bushels. The town has a population of about 100.

Publicity as a Cure for Evil.

From the Baltimore American.

The plea made by Justice Brewer for publicity in all court proceedings, more especially in divorce cases, is one which every advocate of law and order will advocate. Publicity is better than a cure for evil; it is in many cases a preventive. The fear of having a sin told abroad will very often prevent the commission of the sin.

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GRANITE CUTTERS' STRIKE.

Four Thousand Men Quit Work When Wage Scale Is Not Signed.

Barre, Vt., March 1.—A suspension of work in all the stone plants was decided upon late this afternoon by the Granite Cutters' Union, following the failure of negotiations lasting several weeks with the Granite Manufacturers' Association to reach a satisfactory agreement on a new wage scale.

This means operations will stop at all the stone plants in this city, Montpelier, Williamstown, Northfield, and Waterbury. Four thousand men are affected.

A meeting of the stone cutters will be held Monday, when plans for avoiding the suspension will be considered, but little hope is expressed of an agreement being reached. The five-year agreement under which the stone cutters have been operating expires to-day.

Negotiations looking forward to a new contract were begun several weeks ago between committees representing the union and the manufacturers' association. The proposition advanced by the manufacturers was a 37 1/2 cents per hour minimum wage scale. This the cutter committee refused to agree to.

Overcome in Church.
Forty Worshipers at Detroit Have Narrow Escape.

MANY CARRIED TO OPEN AIR

Minister Stammers from Pulpit and Aids in Work of Rescue—Gas Escapes from Large Stove in Basement—Wife and Daughter of the Pastor Among the Sufferers.

Detroit, Mich., March 1.—Escaping coal gas partly asphyxiated forty members of the congregation of the Green Avenue Baptist Church this afternoon. Several of the worshipers were made unconscious, but revived after being carried to the open air.

The pastor, Rev. William Walker, his wife, and daughter, were among the sufferers. The minister became conscious of dizziness, and because of it cut short his sermon in the middle of a sentence and staggered from his pulpit.

Noting the condition of members of his congregation he, though almost unconscious himself, began direct rescue work. Children and women were carried from the building by men so weak that they could scarcely walk.

Fatal results are not expected in any of the cases. The gas came from a large stove placed in the basement of the church a few days ago, and in which fire was built yesterday for the first time.

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VIRTUES OF FARMER

Dr. Woodrow Recites Advantages of Country Life.

PLACE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Boys and Girls Should Be Born in Country and Live There for First Twelve Years of Life, He Says. Advantages and Disadvantages of Rural Surroundings.

"All boys and girls should be born in the country, and live there till they are at least twelve years of age," declared Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Woodrow, pastor of the First Congregational Church, Tenth and G streets northwest, last night.

"A prosperous farmer" was the subject of his lecture, the first of a series on "The struggle for character in the trades and the professions."

Good Fortunes of Farmers.
"The farmer is a truly fortunate individual, being, as he is, so near to nature's heart," said Dr. Woodrow. "All the beauty that nature has is his, right in his sight. He has many disadvantages, but his advantages and our dependence on him outweigh these disadvantages."

"Chief among the disadvantages the farmer has to contend with are isolation, remoteness, inconvenience, school and church deficiencies, and fatigue."

"The employment of a farmer is not conducive to study. After a hard day's work he is asleep within one-half hour after he sits down to read in the evenings."

Independence of Farmers.
"Farmers are the most independent individuals on earth. The coal barons cannot freeze him out; he can grow his wood for fuel. The oil magnates cannot make him buy at their prices; he can make his own tallow. The meat packers cannot make him come around; he can get his meat right on his own farm."

"You have to take the man in his right place, and look at him at home, or in his element, to see him right. Surrounded by the green fields and the woods, he is an interesting man, with a philosophy that is far truer and superior to that of the average college professor or the theoretical dreamer."

"When my lady goes down the street behind her pair of prancing bays, and laughs at the poor farmer's wife jogging along, she should think before she laughs at the shabby country turnout. When we are supercilious and pride ourselves on the fact that we are of the favored few of the land, we too, ought to stop and think that if the farmer did not come to town and feed us three times a day we would starve."

PREVENT ANARCHIST MEETING

Rochester Police Break Up Gathering Before Speeches Are Made.

Rochester, N. Y., March 1.—Fearing an outbreak at an anarchist assemblage this afternoon, Chief of Police Hayden and a squad of detectives broke up the meeting before any of the speakers had a chance to make inflammatory speeches.

Circulars printed in Italian and German, distributed, and one of them fell into the hands of the police.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES END

Metropolitan Baptist Church Concludes Four-day Celebration.

Sunday School Plans Observance in May—Sermons in Morning and Evening.

MONEY NO OBJECT.

It was the talk of anti-Taft folks in Ohio a week ago that this convention would be a dull affair—that as there was no contest, the attendance would be small and the proceedings perfunctory. The Taft managers knew all about this, and have planned to fill up the town and the convention hall to overflowing. Money is no object with the Taft managers. They have millions to draw on, and it is a matter of remark that the telephone bills of the Columbus Taft bureau in one month amounted to \$12,000.